

Guiding Statements

Georgia Southern University Mission Statement:

Georgia Southern University is a public comprehensive university devoted to academic distinction in teaching, scholarship, and service. The University's hallmark is a culture of engagement that bridges theory with practice, extends the learning environment beyond the classroom, and promotes student growth and life success. Georgia Southern's nationally accredited academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional studies prepare a diverse and select undergraduate and graduate student population for leadership and service as world citizens. Faculty, staff, and students embrace core values expressed through integrity, civility, kindness, collaboration, and a commitment to lifelong learning, wellness, and social responsibility.

Central to the University's mission is the faculty's dedication to excellence in teaching and the development of a fertile learning environment exemplified by a free exchange of ideas, high academic expectations, and individual responsibility for academic achievement. Georgia Southern faculty are teacher-scholars whose primary responsibility is the creation of learning experiences of the highest quality, informed by scholarly practice, research, and creative activities. The University offers a student-centered environment enhanced by technology, trans-cultural experiences, private and public partnerships, and stewardship of a safe residential campus recognized for its natural beauty.

Georgia Southern University is committed to advancing the State of Georgia and the region through the benefits of higher education, offering baccalaureate through doctoral degrees and a variety of outreach programs. The University fosters access to its educational programs, provides a comprehensive and fulfilling university experience, and enhances quality of life in the region through collaborative relationships supporting education, health care and human services, cultural experiences, scientific and technological advancement, athletics, and regional development.

Museum Mission Statement:

The Georgia Southern University Museum exists to foster and support life-long learning and engaged citizenship in southeast Georgia. The museum will support the University's mission of teaching, research and service specifically through collections, exhibits and educational outreach.

Museum Vision Statement:

The Georgia Southern University Museum will be the premier institution interpreting the natural and cultural history of the Georgia's Coastal Plain with a growing permanent collection, exhibits, and programming of national stature. Changing exhibits and associated programming highlight the research and work of Georgia Southern University faculty and staff, support the comprehensive mission of the University, and offer topics of interest to the students and community. The Museum will meet or exceed national standards of management, sustained through continuous professional development of a highly qualified staff and accreditation by the American Association of Museums.

Museum Intellectual Framework:

- The Museum will focus its efforts in the following areas:
- Fossils of the Coastal Plain
- Native peoples of the Coastal Plain and Southeast
- The turpentine and naval stores industry
- The history of the university and its immediate community
- The acquisition of collections related to the cultural or natural history of the southeastern coastal plain, provided these collections are of high research and interpretation legitimacy, and that funding for adequate staffing and housing is available. The museum particularly welcomes partnerships with university departments and their research faculty.
- Active, hands-on formal and informal learning
- Educational exhibits and programs that create unique access, education and enrichment opportunities for the region, especially for underserved constituents.

Priority will go to projects that address these goals in a particularly unique or substantial way, and that address multiple goals.